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Labor Market Digest, February 1997

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Center for Workforce Research and Information

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Maine Department of Labor

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

December Data

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February 1997

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Cumberland County recorded lowest unemployment rate in the state page 3

Adjusted unemployment rose in December page 4

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Nine counties recorded employment gains over the year page 8

*A publication of
the*

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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National Trends in Employee Tenure

A recent national survey on job tenure by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) examined how long employees have been with their current employer. The study found that median job tenure increased from 3.5 to 3.8 years between January 1983 and February 1996. (Median tenure is the point at which half of all workers had been in the same job for a longer period of time, and half for a shorter period of time.) Median tenure among men dropped slightly from 4.1 to 4.0 years, while median tenure among women increased from 3.1 to 3.5 years.

A close look at the demographics of the labor force provides an explanation for much of the increase in median tenure. An upward shift in age distribution of the labor force occurred between 1983 and 1996, and tenure generally increases with age. Median tenure for workers age 25 to 34 was 2.8 years in February 1996, compared to 5.3 years for those age 35 to 44, and 8.3 and 10.2 years for those age 45 to 54 and 55 to 64. More older employees could, by itself, increase median tenure.

But, the increase in the overall median was not as large as one might expect given the increasing age of the labor force. That's because among men, the age shift was counterbalanced by the decline in median tenure for men in most age groups, leaving the overall median for men essentially unchanged. Among women, overall tenure rose between

1983 and 1996, with nearly all of the gain taking place from 1991 through 1996. This increase was partially due to substantial increases in median tenure among women age 35 to 44 and 45 to 54. In addition, as with men, the proportion of employed women in the older, longer-tenured age groups rose. Although BLS did not state the precise effect of the age shift of the labor force on median tenure, it is safe to say that without this effect, the median tenure of men would have dropped more between 1983 and 1996, and that of females would have risen less.

Data on tenure often have been used as a gauge of employment security, with some observers regarding increases in tenure as a sign of improving security and falling tenure as a sign of deteriorating security. There are limitations to using the data in this way, however. For example, during recessions or other periods of declining job security, median tenure and the proportions of long tenure could rise because less-senior workers are more likely to lose their jobs than are workers with longer tenure. During periods of economic growth, median tenure and the proportion of workers with long tenure could fall because more job opportunities are available for new entrants to the workforce and experienced workers have more opportunities to change employers and take better jobs. Tenure also could rise under improving economic conditions, however, as fewer layoffs occur and good job matches develop between workers and employers.

Median Years of Tenure with Their Current Employer for Wage and Salary Workers by Age and Gender

	Total		Male		Female	
	1983	1996	1983	1996	1983	1996
Total 16 years and over	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.0	3.1	3.5
16 to 17 years	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
18 to 19 years	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7
20 to 24 years	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.2
25 to 34 years	3.0	2.8	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.7
35 to 44 years	5.2	5.3	7.3	6.1	4.1	4.8
45 to 54 years	9.5	8.3	12.8	10.1	6.3	7.0
55 to 64 years	12.2	10.2	15.3	10.5	9.8	10.0
65 years and over	9.6	8.4	8.3	8.3	10.1	8.4

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Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by Labor Market Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ¹			EMPLOYED ²			UNEMPLOYED ³			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁴		
	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95
LABOR MARKET AREAS												
Augusta	45,670	46,150	45,440	43,740	44,100	42,980	1,930	2,050	2,460	4.2%	4.4%	5.4%
Bangor MSA	51,400	51,200	50,200	49,900	49,600	48,000	1,600	1,600	2,200	3.0	3.2	4.3
Bath-Brunswick	34,490	34,020	34,540	33,550	32,990	33,360	940	1,030	1,180	2.7	3.0	3.4
Belfast	13,050	12,970	12,630	12,380	12,320	11,810	670	660	820	5.2	5.0	6.5
Biddeford	37,490	38,180	35,170	36,310	36,900	33,730	1,180	1,280	1,440	3.2	3.4	4.1
Boothbay Harbor	8,060	7,880	8,300	7,790	7,630	7,920	270	250	390	3.3	3.2	4.7
Bucksport	5,100	5,180	5,060	4,830	4,880	4,700	270	300	360	5.4	5.8	7.0
Calais	5,370	5,410	5,530	4,900	4,940	5,030	470	470	500	8.8	8.6	9.0
Dexter-Pittsfield	13,290	13,270	13,060	12,110	11,990	11,950	1,180	1,280	1,110	8.9	9.6	8.5
Dover-Foxcroft	7,550	7,450	7,470	7,080	6,950	6,970	470	500	490	6.2	6.7	6.6
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor	17,610	18,110	17,220	16,390	16,960	15,810	1,210	1,150	1,410	6.9	6.4	8.2
Farmington	17,780	17,520	17,580	16,740	16,330	16,580	1,040	1,190	1,000	5.9	6.8	5.7
Fort Kent	3,820	3,760	3,980	3,400	3,480	3,630	410	290	350	10.8	7.6	8.8
Greenville	1,160	1,170	1,080	1,060	1,090	950	100	80	130	8.9	7.0	12.4
Houlton	6,690	6,760	6,780	6,320	6,370	6,320	360	400	460	5.4	5.9	6.8
Jonesport-Milbridge	4,190	4,370	4,040	3,930	4,140	3,770	270	230	270	6.3	5.2	6.7
Kittery-York ⁵	20,300	20,220	19,730	20,010	19,860	19,410	290	370	330	1.4	1.8	1.7
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	53,000	52,900	52,200	50,900	50,700	49,700	2,100	2,300	2,500	4.0	4.3	4.9
Lincoln-Howland	5,850	5,890	5,780	5,520	5,520	5,440	330	370	340	5.6	6.3	5.8
Machias-Eastport	6,880	6,950	6,820	6,380	6,460	6,300	500	490	520	7.2	7.0	7.6
Madawaska	4,260	4,170	4,040	3,940	3,890	3,740	320	270	310	7.4	6.6	7.6
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,300	5,270	5,150	4,990	4,950	4,720	320	330	440	6.0	6.2	8.5
Norway-Paris	10,980	11,000	10,920	10,420	10,410	10,160	560	600	760	5.1	5.4	7.0
Outer Bangor	7,790	7,970	7,800	7,320	7,460	7,270	470	510	530	6.0	6.3	6.8
Patten-Island Falls	2,060	2,080	2,140	1,880	1,910	1,970	180	170	170	8.5	8.2	7.8
Portland MSA	132,600	132,700	125,400	130,000	129,600	121,900	2,600	3,100	3,400	2.0	2.3	2.7
Presque Isle-Caribou	20,500	20,630	20,650	18,810	18,890	18,560	1,690	1,740	2,090	8.2	8.4	10.1
Rockland	22,710	22,600	23,270	22,090	21,910	22,270	620	690	1,000	2.7	3.0	4.3
Rumford	10,730	10,080	10,830	10,210	9,500	10,170	520	580	670	4.8	5.8	6.2
Sanford	22,400	22,880	21,210	21,170	21,490	20,010	1,230	1,400	1,200	5.5	6.1	5.7
Sebago Lakes Region	12,760	12,690	12,150	12,380	12,250	11,530	390	440	620	3.0	3.4	5.1
Skowhegan	16,590	16,600	16,090	15,390	15,450	14,800	1,200	1,150	1,290	7.2	6.9	8.0
Stonington	5,510	5,590	5,500	5,350	5,440	5,270	160	150	230	3.0	2.7	4.2
Van Buren	1,620	1,600	1,600	1,460	1,440	1,420	150	160	190	9.5	9.9	11.8
Waterville	25,170	25,190	25,110	23,750	23,690	23,460	1,420	1,500	1,650	5.7	6.0	6.6
MAINE	659,800	660,400	644,400	632,400	631,400	611,600	27,400	29,000	32,800	4.2	4.4	5.1
UNITED STATES (000)	134,583	134,973	132,008	127,903	128,157	125,136	6,680	6,816	6,872	5.0	5.0	5.2

¹ Civilian labor force, employed, and unemployed estimates are by place of residence. Current month estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. Items may not add due to rounding. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. MSA stands for Metropolitan Statistical Area.

² Total employment includes nonfarm wage and salary workers, agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, the self employed, and workers involved in labor disputes.

³ People are classified as unemployed, regardless of their eligibility for unemployment benefits or public assistance, if they meet all of the following: they were not employed during the survey week; they were available for work at that time; and they made specific efforts to find employment some time during the prior four weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed.

⁴ The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing the total number of unemployed by the total civilian labor force, and is expressed as a percent.

⁵ Kittery-York is the five-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Rochester PMSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: Maine Department of Labor, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by County, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	59,340	59,120	58,440	56,890	56,560	55,560	2,450	2,560	2,880	4.1%	4.3%	4.9%
Aroostook	38,470	38,530	38,670	35,390	35,530	35,140	3,090	3,000	3,530	8.0	7.8	9.1
Cumberland	140,140	139,910	133,310	137,340	136,680	129,520	2,810	3,230	3,790	2.0	2.3	2.8
Franklin	14,880	14,700	14,720	14,020	13,670	13,890	850	1,030	820	5.7	7.0	5.6
Hancock	25,750	26,340	25,350	24,210	24,860	23,490	1,540	1,480	1,860	6.0	5.6	7.3
Kennebec	60,640	61,080	60,310	57,870	58,160	56,960	2,760	2,920	3,350	4.6	4.8	5.6
Knox	20,220	20,130	20,730	19,640	19,480	19,800	580	650	930	2.9	3.2	4.5
Lincoln	16,210	15,980	16,480	15,670	15,450	15,760	540	530	730	3.3	3.3	4.4
Oxford	26,250	25,600	26,040	25,050	24,270	24,410	1,200	1,320	1,630	4.6	5.2	6.3
Penobscot	77,810	77,770	76,210	74,310	74,100	72,020	3,500	3,670	4,190	4.5	4.7	5.5
Piscataquis	8,800	8,710	8,630	8,220	8,120	8,000	580	590	630	6.6	6.7	7.3
Sagadahoc	15,780	15,580	15,820	15,360	15,110	15,280	420	470	540	2.6	3.0	3.4
Somerset	26,440	26,400	25,880	24,610	24,600	23,900	1,830	1,800	1,990	6.9	6.8	7.7
Waldo	18,450	18,460	18,020	17,490	17,430	16,810	960	1,030	1,210	5.2	5.6	6.7
Washington	16,770	17,070	16,690	15,520	15,870	15,390	1,250	1,200	1,300	7.5	7.1	7.8
York	93,920	95,040	89,080	90,830	91,530	85,650	3,090	3,510	3,430	3.3	3.7	3.9
MAINE	659,800	660,400	644,400	632,400	631,400	611,600	27,400	29,000	32,800	4.2	4.4	5.1
UNITED STATES (000)	134,583	134,973	132,008	127,903	128,157	125,136	6,680	6,816	6,872	5.0	5.0	5.2

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Area Analyst's Corner

Central Area

Alan Cox (207) 624-5190

New Balance Athletic Shoe Co. has added up to 50 new jobs at its Norridgewock plant. The state budget proposal includes funding to open the recently completed Northern Maine Juvenile Detention Facility in Charleston, creating about 48 jobs. Hathaway Shirt, beginning operations under new ownership, is producing shirts for customers such as L.L. Bean and WalMart.

Western Area

Gerard Dennison (207) 783-5314

The unemployment rate in the Lewiston-Auburn MSA fell for the fourth consecutive month to 4.0 percent in December. This was the lowest monthly unemployment rate recorded in the MSA in eight years. The area is poised for more economic growth in 1997 with announced expansions of 200 new jobs at People's Heritage Bank, 150 at Tambrands, 50 at Liberty Mutual, and 15 at Auburn Manufacturing.

Southern Area

Eva Smith (207) 822-0216

All southern Maine areas continued to record over-the-year employment gains and low unemployment rates. Construction; finance, insurance, and real estate; and wholesale and retail trade contributed to over-the-year job gains in the Portland MSA. In retail trade, openings were planned for Home Depot in Portland and Circuit City in South Portland. Rich's closed stores in Falmouth and Biddeford. Infrastructure development moved forward with economic impact hearings scheduled for the Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline.

North/East Area

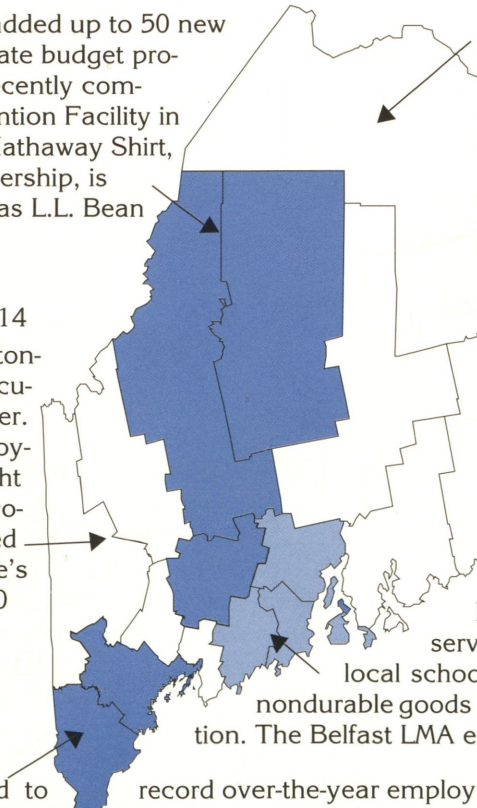
Craig Holland (207) 941-3076

In Fort Kent, a new company will take over the recently closed Gerber Childrens-wear facility. Kent Textiles will begin production in February with approximately 50 employees. The firm will be owned and operated by the Fort Kent Development Corp. Champion International has announced a \$100 million capital improvement project for their Bucksport Mill. The company plans construction of a new woodyard, pulp handling improvements, and an upgrade of paper machine #5.

Coastal Area

Ken Bridges (207) 287-2271

Employment rose in the labor market areas (LMAs) of mid-coastal Maine between November and December. In the Rockland LMA, gains in services, food processing, retail stores, and local schools were partially offset by job declines in nondurable goods manufacturing and non-building construction. The Belfast LMA evidenced gains in finance and services.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

ITEM	1996												1995
	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec
Civilian Labor Force	668.8	666.2	669.4	671.9	667.0	660.4	658.1	655.2	657.0	656.0	651.5	648.9	654.0
Employed	639.4	638.4	635.6	637.4	630.6	623.7	622.2	618.7	622.6	622.7	618.1	615.9	619.4
Unemployed	29.4	27.8	33.8	34.5	36.4	36.7	36.0	36.5	34.0	33.4	33.3	33.0	34.5
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.4	4.2	5.0	5.1	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.3

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	1996												1995
	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ²	546.2	545.2	544.5	543.7	542.2	540.4	542.5	542.0	542.5	544.5	544.7	544.3	545.4
Construction	22.9	22.8	22.7	22.4	22.1	21.9	21.5	21.7	21.8	22.0	22.1	22.3	22.4
Manufacturing	87.9	88.0	87.9	88.0	88.6	88.1	88.8	89.2	89.7	90.1	90.3	91.0	90.9
Durable Goods	40.9	41.1	41.1	41.7	41.7	41.9	41.9	42.3	42.3	42.5	42.5	43.1	42.7
Nondurable Goods	47.0	46.9	46.8	46.3	46.9	46.2	46.9	46.9	47.4	47.6	47.8	47.9	48.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	22.4	22.3	22.1	22.0	21.9	22.0	22.4	22.2	22.1	22.1	22.2	22.1	22.3
Wholesale Trade	27.4	27.0	27.2	27.1	26.9	26.9	26.9	27.0	26.7	26.7	26.5	26.4	26.2
Retail Trade	114.3	115.0	114.5	114.8	114.1	113.8	115.0	114.7	114.5	114.8	114.8	114.4	114.0
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	26.7	26.5	26.3	26.3	26.5	26.3	25.9	25.9	25.8	26.0	26.0	25.9	26.0
Services	152.1	151.4	151.0	150.6	150.1	150.0	150.2	149.9	149.9	150.3	150.3	149.5	150.4
Government	92.4	92.1	92.7	92.4	91.9	91.3	91.7	91.4	91.9	92.4	92.4	92.6	93.1

¹ See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 6. ² Mining employment is not suitable for seasonal adjustment because it has very little seasonal and irregular movement. Thus, the not-seasonally-adjusted series is used as a component of the seasonally adjusted total nonfarm wage and salary employment estimate. Source: See page 2.

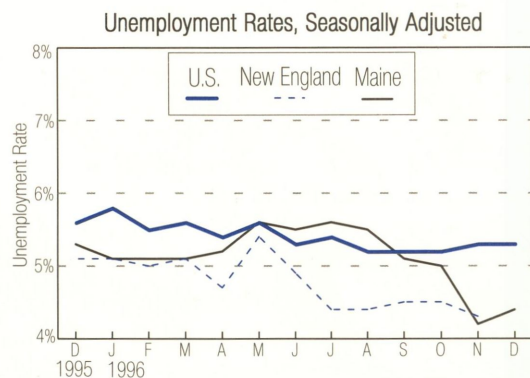
Employment Rose in December

State Labor Commissioner Valerie Landry announced that Maine employment rose by 1,000 from November to December, and that Maine's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate rose from 4.2 percent to 4.4 percent over the same period.

"Employment rose by 1,000 between November and December. However, with the number of Maine residents seeking work increasing by 1,600, seasonally-adjusted unemployment increased slightly as well," said Commissioner Landry. "The current unemployment rate of 4.4 percent remained well below the December 1995 rate of 5.3 percent."

Seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary employment increased by 1,000 between November and December, with the largest gain recorded by services. Over the past year nonfarm employment rose by 800, with the strongest job growth in services and wholesale trade. Employment losses were recorded in manufacturing and government.

Other New England states which have reported their seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates include Rhode Island, 5.2 percent; Vermont, 4.4 percent; Massachusetts, 4.1 percent; and New Hampshire, 3.3 percent. The adjusted national rate for December was 5.3 percent.



Maine's not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in December, down from 4.4 percent in November and 5.1 percent in December 1995. The unadjusted national rate was 5.0 percent in December, unchanged from 5.0 percent in November and down from 5.2 percent in December 1995. Not-seasonally-adjusted December unemployment rates in Maine counties ranged from 2.0 percent in Cumberland County to 8.0 percent in Aroostook County.

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary employment fell seasonally by 2,200 from November to December. Construction fell by 1,300, eating and drinking places declined by 800, and lodging services



Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data

	Dec 1996	Nov 1996	Dec 1995
Average Duration	14.2	14.1	13.7
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$169.89	\$169.71	\$162.95
Exhaustees	1,093	870	1,060

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

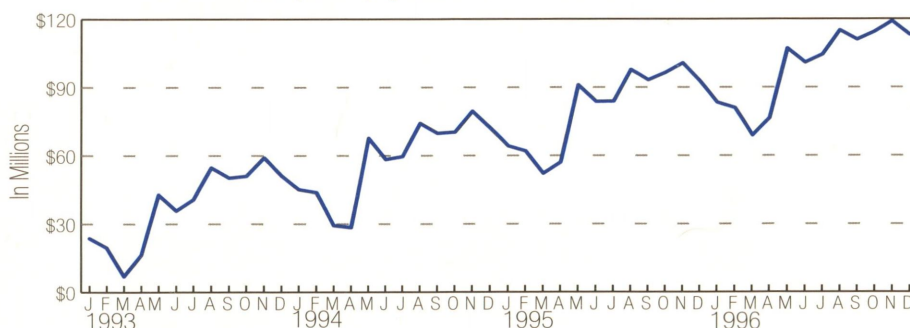
Week	1/11	1/4	12/28	12/21	12/14	12/7	11/30
1996	5,318	3,362	2,174	2,268	2,511	2,850	1,727
Week	1/13	1/6	12/30	12/23	12/16	12/9	12/2
1995	4,813	3,174	3,146	2,463	2,819	3,402	3,539

Continued Claims Less Partial*

Dec 1996	Nov 1996	Dec 1995
11,204	9,355	12,685

* For the week including the 12th of the month.

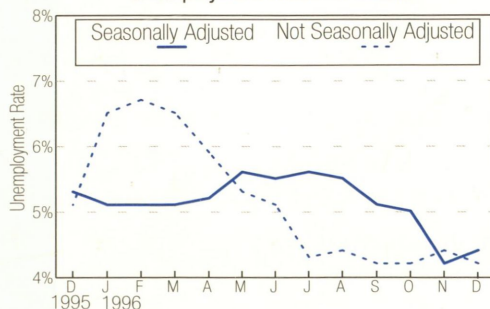
Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



fell by 700 in traditional seasonal patterns caused by the arrival of winter weather.

Over the year, not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 1,000. Services employment rose by 1,800, with the largest increase in social services. Wholesale trade increased by 1,200. Durable goods manufacturing fell by 1,800 jobs, with much of the loss accounted for by the transportation equipment industry. Nondurable goods manufacturing fell by 1,200, largely in leather and leather products. Government jobs dropped by 700.

Unemployment Rates for Maine

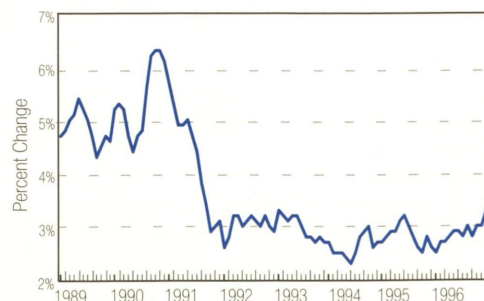


U.S. Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 95
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	158.6	158.6	153.5	153.5

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.0%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+3.3%
Percent change from Last December	+3.3%

Over-the-Year Change in CPI-U



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	MAINE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment¹	551.5	553.7	550.5	138.2	139.0	135.8	42.0	42.0	42.6
Goods Producing	111.9	113.7	114.3	19.8	20.2	19.1	9.2	9.2	10.0
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	23.1	24.4	22.5	6.6	6.7	5.6	1.5	1.6	1.6
Building Construction	5.3	5.4	5.4	1.2	1.2	0.9	*	*	*
Heavy Construction	3.6	4.1	3.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Special Trade Contractors	14.2	14.9	14.0	5.1	5.1	4.4	*	*	*
Manufacturing	88.7	89.2	91.7	13.2	13.5	13.5	7.7	7.6	8.4
Durable Goods	41.8	42.2	43.6	5.8	6.2	5.8	2.2	2.2	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	11.0	11.0	11.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	4.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.1	4.1	4.1	1.3	1.2	1.3	*	*	*
Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment	7.1	6.9	7.6	2.0	1.9	2.2	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment	10.9	11.2	12.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Durable Goods	4.8	5.1	4.5	2.5	3.1	2.3	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	46.9	47.0	48.1	7.4	7.3	7.7	5.5	5.4	6.2
Food and Kindred Products	6.6	6.5	6.4	2.2	2.1	2.1	*	*	*
Textile Mill Products	4.5	4.5	4.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Apparel and Other Textile Products	1.9	2.2	2.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper and Allied Products	14.7	14.6	14.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Printing and Publishing	5.9	5.9	5.9	1.6	1.6	1.8	*	*	*
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	2.7	2.6	2.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leather and Leather Products	8.7	8.6	9.6	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.7
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	2.1	1.9	2.5	2.5	2.7	4.3	4.3	4.5
Service Producing	439.6	440.0	436.2	118.4	118.8	116.7	32.8	32.8	32.6
Transportation and Public Utilities	22.6	22.6	22.5	6.2	6.3	6.1	2.0	2.0	1.8
Wholesale Trade	27.5	27.2	26.3	9.4	9.3	8.7	2.2	2.2	2.2
Retail Trade	116.5	117.0	116.2	35.2	35.5	34.7	8.9	9.0	9.0
General Merchandise Stores	14.1	14.0	14.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Stores	19.1	19.3	19.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Automotive Sales and Services	12.5	12.5	12.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Eating and Drinking Places	33.2	34.0	32.8	7.9	7.9	8.2	*	*	*
Other Retail Trade	37.6	37.2	37.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	26.7	26.4	26.0	12.2	12.1	11.6	1.9	1.8	1.9
Banking	8.4	8.3	8.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	11.9	11.8	11.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	6.4	6.3	6.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Services	150.0	149.7	148.2	37.0	36.8	37.6	12.9	12.9	12.9
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	7.2	7.9	7.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Business Services	18.5	18.6	18.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Services	52.1	51.9	52.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Educational Services	13.3	13.7	13.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Services	17.3	17.0	15.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	41.6	40.6	41.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Government	96.3	97.1	97.0	18.4	18.8	18.0	4.9	4.9	4.8
Federal	13.0	13.0	13.6	2.2	2.2	2.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
State	26.1	26.7	26.9	4.9	5.0	4.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
Local ²	57.2	57.4	56.5	11.3	11.6	10.9	3.9	3.9	3.8

¹ Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, the self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry. Current month's estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. These estimates are benchmarked to March 1995. As a measure of reliability, the March 1995 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was .04 percent lower than the original sample-based estimate.

² Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months.

* Where an employment estimate is not entered, either the data is not available in sufficient detail for publication or is nondisclosable by law.

Source: See page 2.



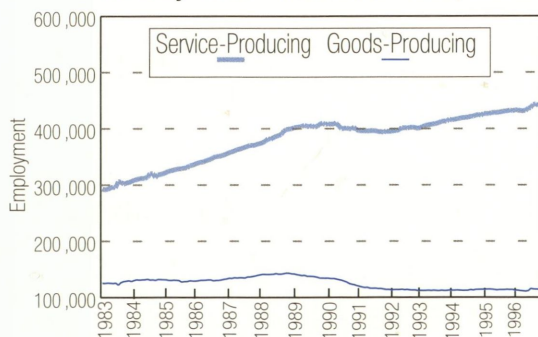
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	Dec 96	Nov 96	Dec 95	1995	1994	1993
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	\$536.90	\$521.64	\$514.81	41.3	40.5	40.6	\$13.00	\$12.88	\$12.68	\$12.42	\$11.88	\$11.63
Durable Goods	\$515.01	\$500.61	\$504.27	41.6	41.0	41.3	12.38	12.21	12.21	12.22	11.80	11.43
Lumber and Wood Products	450.93	429.35	417.78	43.4	42.3	42.2	10.39	10.15	9.90	9.80	9.46	9.33
Primary and Fabricated Metals	461.90	435.90	471.90	40.2	39.2	42.9	11.49	11.12	11.00	11.07	11.04	11.00
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	640.10	626.40	635.01	44.7	44.3	45.1	14.32	14.14	14.08	13.67	13.88	13.32
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	425.37	416.52	409.34	38.6	37.9	38.4	11.02	10.99	10.66	10.76	10.72	10.33
Transportation Equipment	660.43	653.02	649.94	42.2	41.7	40.8	15.65	15.66	15.93	16.43	15.17	14.64
Other Durable Goods	393.04	374.81	406.62	38.8	38.6	40.5	10.13	9.71	10.04	9.67	9.34	8.89
Nondurable Goods	\$557.60	\$540.80	\$516.75	41.0	40.0	39.0	13.60	13.52	13.25	12.61	11.95	11.79
Food and Kindred Products	378.63	377.03	342.08	37.6	37.0	34.8	10.07	10.19	9.83	9.75	9.54	9.34
Textile Mill Products	463.68	438.06	431.95	44.8	41.8	42.1	10.35	10.48	10.26	10.17	9.38	9.49
Apparel and Other Textile Products	318.98	377.50	311.35	35.6	39.2	36.5	8.96	9.63	8.53	8.32	8.08	7.95
Paper and Allied Products	874.42	842.47	818.56	44.5	42.7	42.7	19.65	19.73	19.17	18.22	17.03	16.63
Leather and Leather Products	345.71	340.95	313.92	38.8	38.7	36.0	8.91	8.81	8.72	8.54	8.30	8.00
Other Nondurable Goods	442.36	432.82	431.68	38.2	38.0	37.8	11.58	11.39	11.42	10.88	10.62	10.28
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	440.27	460.13	429.23	39.1	40.9	38.6	11.26	11.25	11.12	11.02	10.78	10.68
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	473.10	460.48	409.32	41.5	40.5	37.9	11.40	11.37	10.80	10.11	9.76	9.82

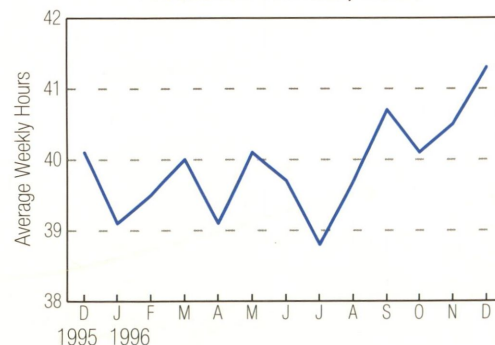
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Source: See page 2.

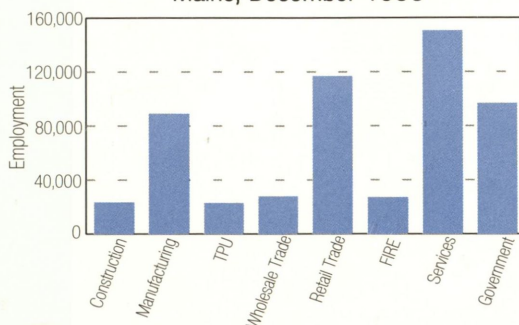
Nonfarm Employment by Sector
January 1983 - December 1996, Maine¹



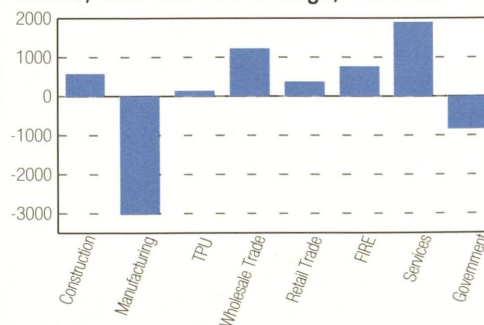
Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division
Maine, December 1996²



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, December 1996²



¹ Seasonally Adjusted. ² Not Seasonally Adjusted.

TPU: Transportation, Communication, & Public Utilities
FIRE: Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate



Employment by Major Industry Division for Maine Counties¹

	Androscoggin	Aroostook	Cumberland	Franklin	Hancock	Kennebec	Knox	Lincoln	Oxford	Penobscot	Piscataquis	Sagadahoc	Somerset	Waldo	Washington	York
Second Quarter 1995																
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	805	879	1,049	56	280	446	275	135	225	494	77	78	222	57	185	431
Mining and Construction	1,732	899	6,283	453	1,341	1,946	749	463	605	2,051	111	550	1,262	336	425	1,921
Manufacturing	9,324	4,950	15,182	4,046	2,806	5,562	2,618	843	4,369	9,760	2,027	8,589	5,008	1,538	2,208	12,183
Transportation and Public Utilities	1,695	1,603	6,435	241	710	2,094	602	717	614	3,443	223	209	685	240	552	1,115
Wholesale Trade	2,210	878	9,089	111	367	2,818	870	192	237	3,295	67	166	369	173	391	1,308
Retail Trade	8,386	6,356	32,904	2,441	4,847	9,833	3,418	2,680	2,996	13,881	1,087	1,848	2,826	1,861	2,293	13,645
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,911	927	12,224	511	637	1,939	1,340	383	453	1,986	89	265	317	154	274	1,562
Services	12,037	6,738	43,222	2,181	5,742	14,176	4,273	2,740	4,241	15,966	985	2,287	3,836	1,695	2,126	13,286
State Government	443	908	4,036	381	549	9,280	701	58	180	4,730	14	35	532	39	374	363
Local Government	4,233	3,978	11,545	1,263	2,165	5,133	1,558	1,427	2,359	6,946	1,032	1,504	2,189	1,293	1,869	6,676
Federal Government	338	495	3,417	94	395	1,794	135	101	174	1,257	63	308	156	115	336	4,494
Total	43,112	28,613	145,389	11,779	19,838	55,020	16,540	9,739	16,452	63,809	5,774	15,840	17,400	7,502	11,032	56,984
Second Quarter 1996																
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	749	937	1,197	59	297	459	253	141	251	460	77	58	239	60	211	528
Mining and Construction	1,755	812	6,386	527	1,387	2,117	814	462	611	2,142	123	626	1,774	327	437	1,920
Manufacturing	8,261	4,894	15,435	3,536	2,747	5,550	2,770	847	4,257	9,368	1,924	7,985	4,918	1,455	2,113	11,756
Transportation and Public Utilities	1,657	1,612	6,533	228	747	2,083	677	683	614	3,482	229	232	631	266	542	1,138
Wholesale Trade	2,202	856	9,853	136	322	2,951	831	221	242	3,266	63	174	355	241	378	1,477
Retail Trade	8,294	5,764	32,195	2,458	4,774	9,730	3,323	2,678	2,931	13,864	1,092	1,835	2,762	1,847	2,216	14,297
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,949	950	12,307	500	617	1,758	1,841	372	435	2,001	89	290	326	144	294	1,581
Services	12,306	6,742	44,323	2,110	6,069	14,869	4,355	2,874	4,228	16,167	1,038	2,316	3,887	1,837	2,166	13,546
State Government	428	887	3,778	379	483	8,803	670	57	252	4,453	14	31	527	41	378	442
Local Government	4,208	4,042	11,948	1,304	2,170	5,295	1,569	1,504	2,368	6,965	992	1,516	2,239	1,340	1,829	7,115
Federal Government	331	477	3,397	98	357	1,763	135	101	164	1,224	59	277	155	112	321	4,171
Total	45,145	27,973	147,354	11,335	19,971	55,378	17,328	9,940	16,354	63,391	5,701	15,341	17,813	7,670	10,885	57,970
Change, Second Quarter 1995 to Second Quarter 1996																
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	-56	58	148	3	17	13	-22	6	26	-34	0	-20	17	3	26	97
Mining and Construction	23	-87	103	74	46	171	65	-1	6	91	12	76	512	-9	12	-1
Manufacturing	-1,063	-56	253	-510	-59	-12	152	4	-112	-392	-103	-604	-90	-83	-95	-427
Transportation and Public Utilities	-38	9	98	-13	37	-11	75	-34	0	39	6	23	-54	26	-10	23
Wholesale Trade	-8	-22	764	25	-45	133	-39	29	5	-29	-4	8	-14	68	-13	169
Retail Trade	-92	-592	-709	17	-73	-103	-95	-2	-65	-17	5	-13	-64	-14	-77	652
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	38	23	83	-11	-20	-181	501	-11	-18	15	0	25	9	-10	20	19
Services	269	4	1,101	-71	327	693	82	134	-13	201	53	29	51	142	40	260
State Government	-15	-21	-258	-2	-66	-477	-31	-1	72	-277	0	-4	-5	2	4	79
Local Government	-25	64	403	41	5	162	11	77	9	19	-40	12	50	47	-40	439
Federal Government	-7	-18	-20	4	-38	-31	0	0	-10	-33	-4	-31	-1	-3	-15	-323
Total	2,033	-640	1,965	-444	133	358	698	201	-98	-418	-73	-499	413	168	-147	986

¹ Employment reported by employers subject to the Maine Employment Security Law. Also included is reported employment of federal government installations within the state.

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